

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 1329

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States should accept the Iraqi Government's stated goal of setting a timetable for withdrawal of United States Armed Forces from Iraq.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 10, 2008

Mr. ELLISON (for himself, Mr. OBERSTAR, Ms. LEE, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. FARR, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HONDA, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. WATSON, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. HARE, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. HODES, and Mr. FATTAH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States should accept the Iraqi Government's stated goal of setting a timetable for withdrawal of United States Armed Forces from Iraq.

Whereas on April 13, 2004, President Bush said "As a proud and independent people, Iraqis do not support an indefinite occupation, and neither does America.";

Whereas on October 25, 2006, in response to a question whether the United States wanted to maintain permanent military bases in Iraq, President Bush stated "Any deci-

sions on permanency in Iraq will be made by the Iraqi government.”;

Whereas on July 7, 2008, Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki spoke with Arab ambassadors about a security pact being negotiated to determine the future United States military role in Iraq, telling the ambassadors “The current trend is to reach an agreement on a memorandum of understanding either for the departure of the forces or a memorandum of understanding to put a timetable on their withdrawal.”;

Whereas on July 8, 2008, Iraqi Government spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh said that a deadline should be set for the withdrawal of United States and allied forces from Iraq, with a timetable;

Whereas the Iraqi Government spokesman emphasized that although Iraq did not have a specific date in mind, it was important to agree on the principle of setting a deadline;

Whereas Iraqi National Security Advisor Mowaffak al-Rubaie stated on July 8, 2008, that the Iraqi Government would not sign an agreement governing the future role of United States Armed Forces in Iraq unless it includes a timetable for withdrawal, emphasizing that Iraq was “impatiently waiting” for the complete withdrawal of United States forces;

Whereas Prime Minister al-Maliki has stated any agreement regarding a United States military role in Iraq will be based on “respect for the full sovereignty of Iraq”;

Whereas a clear statement that the United States does not seek a long-term or permanent presence in Iraq would send a strong signal to the people of Iraq and the international community that the United States fully supports

the efforts of the Iraqi people to exercise full national sovereignty, including control over security and public safety; and

Whereas the Government of Iraq has stated its expectation that the United States Armed Forces should withdraw from Iraq and has emphasized the importance of the principle of setting a deadline or timetable for withdrawal: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that—

3 (1) the United States should not maintain a
4 military presence in Iraq without the approval of
5 Congress; and

6 (2) it should be the policy of the United States
7 to accept the principle of setting a deadline or time-
8 table for withdrawal of United States military forces
9 from Iraq.

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